



## CIRCULAR TO INSPECTORS.

GENTLEMEN,—Your continued interest in the due observance of Arbor Day and Empire Day in every school in your inspectorate is earnestly invited. This year the former falls on Friday May 1st and the latter on Friday May 22nd.

Your past efforts have been fruitful of much good and I believe are much appreciated, but there are still many barren, unlovely school grounds to be made beautiful, and fresh young minds and hearts to be filled with an appreciation of and love for British institutions. Let Arbor Day be a bright, joyous holiday devoted to the pleasure of making beautiful what should be beautiful, and developing in the young minds a keen appreciation of nature. Let Empire Day be also a day which will foster a healthy national patriotism and awaken all the pleasurable emotions which the love of our country and empire should inspire.

The experience of past years will guide teachers and trustees in the arrangement of their programmes which will vary according to circumstances. The following suggestions may however be found helpful. On both days the Canadian Ensign should be raised.

### ARBOR DAY.

Preparation for Arbor Day should be begun two or three weeks beforehand. The work to be done should be carefully planned. In the laying out of paths or flower beds or in the location of trees, the trustees should be consulted. The kinds of trees to be planted, where they are to be obtained and all other preparations should be completed before the celebration of the day. Let there be variety in the kinds of trees selected. A collection of our native trees and shrubs growing in any school ground may be made to serve a useful educational purpose.

### *The Forenoon.*

The forenoon may be devoted to planting trees, making flower beds, clearing up the school grounds and sodding worn places. Let each class plant a tree, to be called "the class tree," and arrange its flower bed which it will care for.

*The Afternoon.*

A musical and literary programme may be arranged for the afternoon. Such songs and poems as the following are suggested,—

- “The Maple Leaf Forever.”
- “All Hail the Broad-leaved Maple.”
- “Selections from Hiawatha.”
- “The Ivy Green.” (Dickens.)
- “Woodman Spare That Tree.” (Morris )
- “A Glorious Tree is the Old Gray Oak ” (Hill.)
- “Forget Me Not.” (Phœbe Cary.)
- “The National Anthem.”

Talks on the destruction of forests, and the economic uses of forests will be appropriate.

## EMPIRE DAY.

As in previous years the forenoon exercise may be devoted to a study of the extent and resources of the British Empire, the relationships of the various outlying portions to the central authority, the different races owning the sway of the British Sovereign. Stirring incidents in the history of the Empire ; great statesmen, soldiers, sailors and authors should all receive prominent attention.

An excellent programme for the afternoon may easily be prepared. Each teacher should try to enlist the co-operation of one or more of the trustees, the local clergymen, and all who can aid either by speech or song. Suitable recitations, readings and songs should be prepared by the pupils. The public should be invited. A few suitable selections for readings or recitations are given but many others equally good may be chosen.

- “Herve Riel.” (Browning.)
- “The Englishman.” (Eliza Cook.)
- “The Better Way ” (S. Coolidge.)
- “The Homes of England ” (Hemans.)
- “The Future of Canada.” (Dufferin.)
- “Sir Isaac Brock to his Soldiers.” (Mair.)
- “The Maple Leaf Forever.”
- “Rule Britannia.”
- “The Charge of the Light Brigade.”
- “The National Anthem.”

R. HARCOURT,

*Minister of Education*

TORONTO, Mar. 24th, 1903.